

REMARKS

Claims 11-25 and 27-33 are pending in the application. By this paper, new claims 31-33 have been added and claims 11-25 and 27-30 have been amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, on page 8, lines 5-22. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 11-25 and 27-30 are respectfully requested.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings stand objected under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). The Office Action states that the drawings do not show features of claims 11 and 25, i.e., “wherein the at least two operations elements are movable from a first of the at least two fields to a second of at least two fields on the screen.” The objection to the drawings is moot to claims 11 and 25 as amended. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawing is respectfully requested.

Objection to Specification

The specification stands objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis. The objection to the specification is moot to claims 11 and 25 as amended. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 11-16 and 19-24

Claims 11-16 and 19-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,359,632 to Eastty et al. (“Eastty”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,859,631 to Bergman et al. (“Bergman”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,438,241 to Silfvast et al. (“Silfvast I”).

Claim 11 recites a device for setting values for processing of audio signals. The recited device comprises “at least two operating elements structured and arranged for allowing the simultaneous adjustment of the values displayed in the at least two fields on the screen, each operating element disposed adjacent one of the displayed values within each field, wherein the at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen.” The recited device further includes a computer “operable to assign different configurations to the at least one of the fields of the screen.”

None of references on record discloses all of the features of independent claim 11. Eastty discloses an audio processing apparatus. The audio processing apparatus of Eastty operates

such that processing parameters are adjusted by user-operable adjustment controls and that visual indications of the current state are displayed. *See Eastty*, Col. 3, lines 1-5. However, the audio processing apparatus does not disclose at least the two operating elements and the computer recited in claim 11 as amended, such that, “the at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen”. *See Eastty*, Col. 3, line 52 ~ Col. 4, line 23.

Bergman and Silfvast I also do not disclose or suggest “at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen”, as recited in claim 11 as amended. Bergman discloses a front panel including three layers 2, 4 and 6 and two setting elements 8, 10. *See Bergman*, Col. 2, line 65 ~ Col. 3, line 30. Bergman does not disclose or suggest the ability to have different types of configurations, as claimed. Silfvast I discloses a control surface including the control elements for four channels. *See Col. 6*, lines 16-45. A display is placed on top center of the control elements such as knob. *See Silfvast I*, Col. 6, line 37-38. Silfvast I does not teach or suggest the two operating elements and computer recited in claim 11 as amended that allow for different types of configurations.

Thus, none of Eastty, Bergman and Silfvast I teaches or suggests the recited feature of claim 11, either individually or in combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 11 is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-16 and 19-24 depend from claim 11 and therefore include all of the features of claim 11 plus additional features. For at least the reason discussed above with regard to claim 11, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to these claims also be withdrawn.

Claim 17

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty, Bergman, Silfvast I and U.S. Patent No. 5,959,610 to Silfvast (“Silfvast II”).

Silfvast II discloses shaft encoders that read the rotation of a series of digital input knobs. *See Col. 2*, line 64 ~ *Col. 3*, line 10. Silfvast II fails to disclose the recited features of claim 17 such as the two operating elements and the computer where “at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen”.

Moreover, neither Eastty, Bergman nor Silfvast I teaches or suggests the recited two operating elements and the computer as claimed. Thus, none of Eastty, Bergman and Silfvast I

& II teaches or suggests the recited feature of claim 11, either individually or in combination. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 17 also be withdrawn.

Claim 18

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty, Bergman, Silfvast I and U.S. Patent No. 5,786,811 to Jaeger et al. (“Jaeger”).

Jaegar discloses a slidable control knob supported by an elongated track. The elongated track is attached to the face of a display panel screen that displays a decibel scale and/or other graphics. *See* Col. 21, line 60 ~ Col. 22, line 1. However, Jaegar does not disclose the recited features of claim 11, such as the two operating elements and the computer where “at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen”.

Thus, none of Eastty, Bergman, Silfvast I and Jaegar teaches or suggests the recited feature of claim 18, either individually or in combination. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 18 also be withdrawn.

Claims 25 and 27-30

Claims 25 and 27-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eastty in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,339,166 to LeBrat et al. (“LeBrat”) and Silfvast I.

Claim 25 as amended recites an audio signal processing apparatus. The recited apparatus comprises “at least one screen comprising at least two fields structured and arranged to display the set values of the at least two operating elements, each operating element disposed adjacent one of the displayed values within each field, wherein the at least two operating elements are structured and arranged such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen.” The recited apparatus further comprises a computer “operable to assign the different configurations to the at least one of the fields of the screen” and an algorithm library coupled to the computer and to a signal processor.

As discussed above in connection with claims 11-24, Eastty and Silfvast I do not teach or suggest the recited features of claim 25 such as the operating elements and the computer where “at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen”.

LeBrat discloses an algorithm library to be used for the call-up of the last algorithm therefrom. *See* Col. 22, lines 44-57. LeBrat relates to a video analysis system and does not

disclose any feature of the audio signal processing apparatus recited in claim 25. Moreover, LeBrat neither teaches nor discloses "at least two operating elements operate such that the screen displays different types of configurations in at least one of the fields of the screen".

Thus, none of Eastty, LeBrat and Silfvast I teaches or suggests all of the features of claim 25, either individually or in combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 25 is respectfully requested.

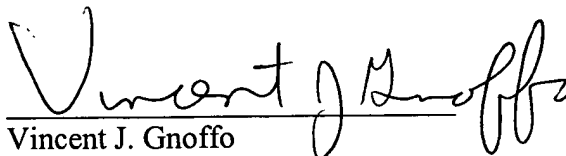
Claims 27-30 depend from claim 25 and therefore include all of the features of claim 25 plus additional features. For at least the reason discussed above with regard to claim 25, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to these claims also be withdrawn.

New Claims 31-33

Support for new claims 31-33 may be found in at least the description of page 8, lines 5-22 of the specification. The new claims 31-33 depend indirectly on claim 25 and so are patentable for at least the same reasons given above in connection with claim 25. Claims 31-33 are patentable for the additional reason that they each recite operations of the computer in accordance with the defined configuration. None of the references on record teaches or suggests the apparatus of claims 31-33, either individually or in combination.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number if there are any outstanding issues that could be resolved through a telephone conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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